(a) whether it is a fact that the Tata Motors are silently moving out of Singur;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that several companies are facing same problem that Tata has been facing; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to protect the interest of such companies and its employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA): (a) and (b) Tata Motors plant to manufacture Nano Cars has been relocated in Gujarat.

(c) and (d) As per information obtained from the society of Automobile Manufacturers Association (SIAM) currently no other auto company is facing Singur like problem.

Purchase orders placed by SIL, Lucknow

†2422. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Scooter India Limited (SIL), Lucknow, an undertaking of Government of India, is purchasing brake shoe, brake lining and clutch plates from outside agencies through tender;

(b) if so, the number of firms which have presented their samples and quotations to SIL during last two years;

(c) whether it is a fact that SIL has placed purchase orders on high rates instead of buying better quality brake shoes on low rates; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA): (a) Scooter India Limited (SIL), Lucknow is currently purchasing Brake Linings under limited tendering system and Clutch Plates on single source basis. However, brake Shoes are being manufactured in SIL itself.

(b) One other party besides established vendors consisting of one for Clutch Plates and two for Brake Linings approached the company during last two years with samples for Brake Shoes, Brake Linings and Clutch Plates. Samples provided by the party were checked for required specifications and were found unsuitable.

(c) and (d) Tenders were invited by SIL from 13 firms for Brake shoes Assemble and purchase order was placed to the lowest bidder.

Recommendation of B.K. Chaturvedi panel

2423. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether the B.K. Chaturvedi Committee on Finances of Oil Companies has submitted its report; and

(b) if so, the main recommendations of the Committee and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) A High Power Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri B.K. Chaturvedi, constituted to examine the financial position of Oil Companies, has submitted its Report on 31.07.2008.

The main recommendations of the Committee are as under:

(i) The change of pricing at the refinery gate from the current Trade Parity (for Petrol and Diesel) and Import Parity (for Kerosene and LPG) to Free on Board (FOB) Export Parity basis).

(ii) The price of Petrol be adjusted to fully reflect international prices by March, 2009 and the price of Diesel be adjusted to fully reflect international prices in 24 months time.

(iii) Sale of Diesel to industrial and commercial users be at market prices to be negotiated on commercial considerations.

(iv) Once these price adjustments are completed, Government should disengage from the process of pricing of petroleum products, and allow pricing to be an outcome of a competitive market process.

(v) Subsidies on LPG (Domestic) and SKO (PDS) should be restricted to BPL families only. This subsidy should be delivered through Smart Cards or cash transfer in urban and semi-urban areas and not through supply of products below their market prices.

(vi) For Domestic LPG, the entitlement to subsidised supply should be reduced to 6 refills in a year, which could be progressively reduced to 4 refills, 2 refills and zero refills in the following years.

The recommendations made by the Committee are under consideration of the Government.

Supply of petro-products to petro-outlets

2424. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether oil companies supply petroleum products above 15 Centigrade to petroleum outlets throughout instead of mandatory required Centigrade which results in loss to petroleum outlets and huge benefits to the officials of oil companies; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard including the complaints received if any, and the action taken thereon during the last three years, State-wise?